Case No.: 55980US004

REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of the application as amended are respectfully requested.

With respect to the 35 USC §112, first paragraph rejection, it is pointed out that the T_g reported in the specification is that of the polymer not of the monomers. Specifically, this is described in the way in which the glass T_g is measured at the top of page 15, namely is the T_g of the polymer, copolymer as recited in claim 17. In view of this, the objection based on the first paragraph is respectfully requested to be withdrawn.

With respect to the rejections over the combination of Bolich with Chen and/or with Mougin, this rejection is traversed with respect to the claims as amended. As pointed out by the Examiner, the compositions in Bolich when dispersed are dispersed droplets or particles of the copolymer in a hydrophobic volatile solvent. Bolich specifically requires throughout that his copolymer be within a hydrophobic volatile solvent. The claims as previously amended have been clarified to indicate that the dispersion is that of the copolymers per se as discrete particles and not the copolymers contained within a hydrophobic volatile solvent. Bolich clearly does not teach this. Such as submitted that the claims as clarified are immediately allowable over the art of record and such is respectfully requested.

Claims 14 and 16 have been cancelled.

As such, it is submitted that the application as currently claims as presented are immediately in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested.

The support for the polymers being present as discrete particles is found specifically at page 3, lines 25-29 which indicates that the dispersions of discrete particles.

Respectfully submitted,

November 5, 2003

Date

By:_

William J. Bond, Reg. No. 32,400 Telephone No.: (651) 736-4790

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel 3M Innovative Properties Company Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833